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Title : Need to invigorate the cash strapped Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited.

SHRI P.K. BIJU (ALATHUR): State-run BSNL's losses have more than tripled to about Rs 6,000 crore during 2010-11. BSNL might now end up losing its 'mini-navratna' status as the policies of mini-navratna status does not allow a loss making company to qualify. It gradually lost its market share to the fierce competition from private players. Losing the mini-navratna tag would mean that BSNL would no longer enjoy the financial and functional autonomy in its operations, it would not be able to place orders for projects and enter into joint ventures on its own toes without seeking government approval. The telecom's revenues have consistently declined during the past four years. Full Mobile number portability is another important area of concern. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) has reported a loss of around Rs.6,000 crore in 2010-11, which is up three times compared to Rs. 1,822 crore reported in 2009-10, while its total revenues also declined to Rs.28,876 crore, a dip of around 10 per cent from Rs.32,072 crore. Notably, BSNL had reported the highest net profit of over Rs. 10,000 crore in 2005-06. While Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) lost 131,581 customers, Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd's (MTNL) lost 5, 84,261 customers after mobile number portability(MNP) service was introduced in January 2011.

I urge the government to take all necessary step to redeem the cash strapped BSNL from losing its mini Navaratna status and make it a dominant player in the market.

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